

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Previously Presented)** A composition comprising a standard degradation product for analysis of a sample containing (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, said composition containing as the standard degradation product (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

Claim 11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Previously Presented)** A method of suppressing the generation of a degradation product in an oily preparation comprising (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, comprising adding dl- α -tocopherol to the preparation, wherein the degradation product is

(5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-
5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 12, wherein the amount of (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol generated in the preparation after 12-month storage at room temperature under shading is suppressed to 1% or less.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 10, which is used as a standard of a degradation product in analysis of a preparation comprising (5Z,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.

Claims 15-16. **(Canceled)**

Claim 17. **(Currently Amended)** A compound ~~for synthesizing vitamin D compounds comprising of~~ (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol, for synthesizing vitamin D compounds.

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18. **(New)** In a method for synthesizing a vitamin D compound comprising reacting an intermediate compound, the improvement wherein the intermediate compound is (5E,7E)-(1R,2R,3R)-2-(3-hydroxypropoxy)-9,10-secocholesta-5,7,10(19)-triene-1,3,25-triol.